



Welcome to the Capitol

For nearly a century, the Utah State Capitol has served the people of the state as the seat of all three branches of government and numerous state agencies. The Capitol was designed by Utah architect Richard K. A. Kletting in 1912 and completed in 1916. Kletting's winning plans incorporated modern construction methods and materials – including reinforced concrete, elevators, and electric lighting. Over the years, various remodeling projects modified the interior spaces and grounds.

In 2004, the most extensive and comprehensive reconstruction and renovation plans began. Preservation of the Capitol included the careful shifting of millions of pounds of concrete onto new foundations and devices called base isolators. This incredible engineering achievement now protects the building and its occupants from severe earthquake damage. In addition, artwork, fixtures and furnishings were acquired, conserved and created; new service buildings and landscaping were added; and the most up-to-date technology installed.

Visitor Services Center

The Utah State Capitol Preservation Board, in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, the Senate and the House of Representatives offers docent-guided tours of the Capitol and other informative education programs, workshops and events throughout the year.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by the Visitor Services Center on the first floor for information on tours and events. An engaging, brief documentary offering an insider's view of the renovation project is screened throughout the day in the theater.

Please visit the website or contact the Visitor Services Center to schedule tours or find information about upcoming events.

Web: utahstatecapitol.utah.gov
Email: capitol@utah.gov
Phone: 801-538-1800

Tour Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Tours are given on the hour every hour.
A reservation is required for groups of 10 or more.

Docent-Guided Tours for Students

Guided tours for students are offered using designed curriculum with hands-on activities. Students will enjoy learning about Utah history, government and the art and architecture of the Capitol. Please visit the website or contact the Visitor Services Center to schedule tours of the Capitol and to find helpful information about legislative activities, hours and advice on transportation.

The Utah Capitol Store

Located on the first floor, The Utah Capitol Store offers a variety of Capitol and Utah-related items, executive gifts, toys, souvenirs, materials for educators and a well-stocked Utah book section selected especially for Capitol visitors. For a more comprehensive look at the Capitol, its grounds and the processes of conservation and renovation, the Capitol Preservation Board has published a beautifully illustrated commemorative book and a DVD documentary detailing the preservation project.

Email: capitolstore@utah.gov
Phone: 801-538-1400

The State Dining Room

The dining services on Capitol Hill are located in the Senate Building, east of the plaza fountain. Visitors may enjoy snacks or delicious meals offered weekdays. Please contact the Salt Lake Community College Culinary Institute, Capitol Hill's food service provider, to help with all dining needs.

Email: diningservices@utah.gov
Phone: 801-538-1095

Website

Visit the Capitol Preservation Board's website for comprehensive information on visitor services, facility bookings and fees; history of the Capitol, government and civics; and family activities.

Web: utahstatecapitol.utah.gov

The Capitol Preservation Board

120 State Capitol
350 N. State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
Phone: 801-538-3074

Utah State Capitol Self-guided
tour



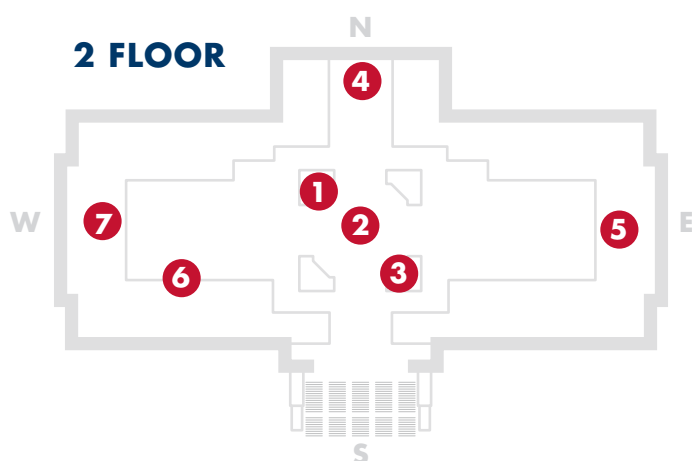
1850 Utah becomes a territory of the United States. 1865 The Civil War ends. 1877 The telephone and incandescent light bulb are invented. 1896 Utah is admitted as the forty-fifth state. 1906 Copper mining begins in Brigham Canyon. 1912 Richard Kletting is selected as the Capitol's chief architect. 1914 Governor William Spry lays the Capitol's cornerstone.

1 Niche Sculptures 2 FLOOR

Capitol architect Richard K. A. Kletting recommended four allegorical niche sculptures to illustrate important values and ideals fundamental to Utah's culture. The 11-foot bronzes, created by the sculptor team Daub, Firmin and Hendrickson, employ two figures - an adult and a youth.

2 Rotunda/Dome 2 FLOOR

The interior dome is 165-feet at its highest point; in the center, the 95-foot chain holds the luxurious chandelier. Conserved seagulls, originally painted by William Slater, fly east from the Great Salt Lake across the clear blue sky in the dome. The entire structure is held up by four piers, each supporting ten million pounds.



8 The House Chamber 3 FLOOR

The House of Representatives shares responsibility with the Senate for creating the laws of the state. There are currently 75 representatives who serve two-year terms, each elected from a district of approximately 35,000 citizens. In the west cove is Vincent Aderente's *The Dream of Brigham Young* and in the east is A. E. Forringer's *Discovery of the Great Salt Lake*. In 2006, two new murals by David Koch were commissioned for the north and south coves of the Chamber.

9 The Senate Chamber 3 FLOOR

The Senate is a body of 29 individuals elected to represent a constituency of about 95,000 citizens for a four-year term. The two new murals were painted by Keith Bond. The multiple-paneled landscape on the north wall of the Chamber was painted by artists A. B. Wright and Lee Greene Richards. The Senate and the House meet in annual sessions for 45 days during the months of January through March.

10 The Supreme Court 3 FLOOR

The Supreme Court is the highest court of appeal in the state judicial system. The Utah Supreme Court is made up of five justices appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. Most of the court's business is now conducted in the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in downtown Salt Lake. The historic courtroom is used for oral arguments in February and for other judicial ceremonial functions. The mural that serves as the backdrop of the Chamber was painted by H. L. A. Culmer and is titled *Caroline Bridge*.



11 Fourth Floor Galleries 4 FLOOR

The original galleries, located on the fourth floor, were converted into office space over the years. Now reclaimed according to Kletting's original plans, the galleries feature rotating exhibitions about Utah's history and heritage.



3 The PWAP Murals 2 FLOOR

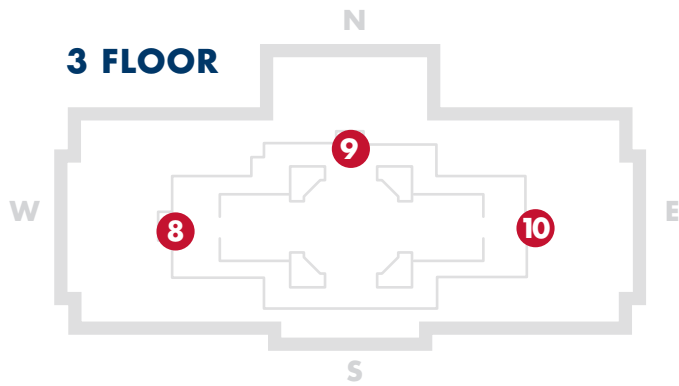
The twelve murals in the rotunda, four in the pendentives, or arched triangles leading up to the dome, and eight in the drum that supports the dome, were funded by the Public Works of Art Program (PWAP), a federal relief program formed to provide work for unemployed artists during the Great Depression. Painted on canvas, in 1934, in a building at the Utah State Fair Grounds, they were installed the following year.

4 Brigham Young & the Territorial Governors 2 FLOOR

This monumental bronze of Utah's first territorial governor, Brigham Young, by Craig Varner is next to images of the sixteen federally appointed governors who led the Utah Territory between 1850 and 1896. Brigham is also featured in murals located in the Rotunda and House Chamber.

5 Lunettes 2 FLOOR

The paintings at each end of the large, vaulted atrium were the first commissioned works of art installed in the Capitol. Painters Gerard Hale and Gilbert White captured scenes of Utah's pioneer heritage. The east mural is titled *Reclaiming the Desert by Irrigation* and the west is *The Arrival of the Pioneers in the Great Salt Lake Valley in 1847*.

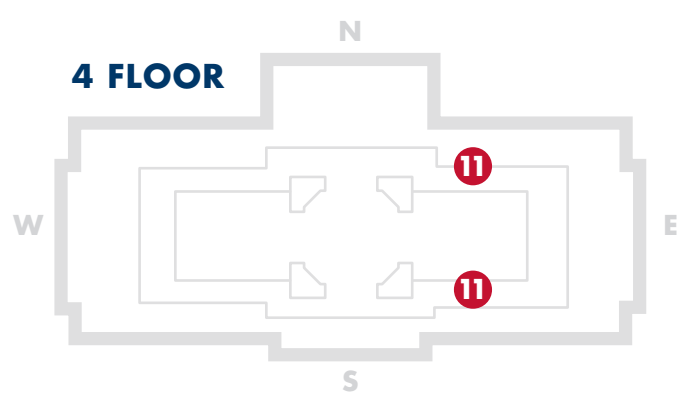
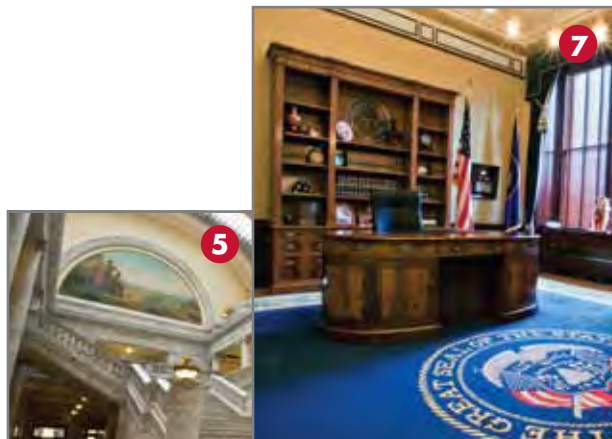


6 The State Reception Room 2 FLOOR

The State Reception Room, nicknamed the "Gold Room" for its use of 22 karat yellow gold leafing, was designed to accommodate important state functions. The ceiling mural of Beaux-arts style *Children at Play*, by Lewis Shettle, the richly ornamented walls, draperies, fireplaces and furnishings were preserved to show the room in its turn-of-the-century glory.

7 Governor's Suite 2 FLOOR

The Governor's Ceremonial Office is used by the Governor for bill signings, press conferences, and the reception of dignitaries. The desk, table, and cabinets are symbolic because they were made from wood derived from sections of trees toppled by a tornado that ripped through Salt Lake City in 1999. Local carpenter Chris Gochmour constructed the pieces as symbols of Utah's spirit and determination, a reminder that something good can come from a disaster.

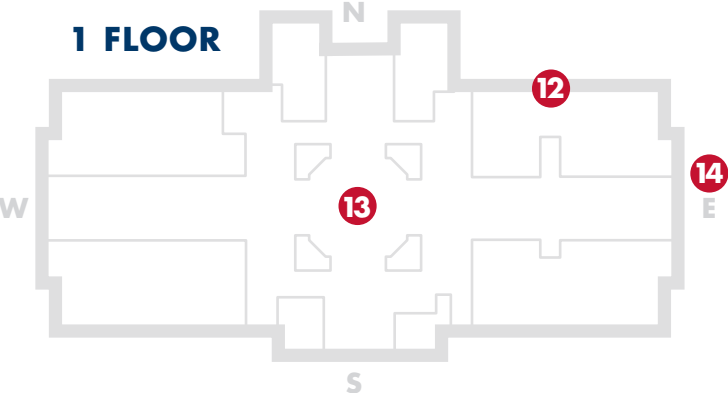


12 Base Isolation 1 FLOOR

Exhibits about important elements of the Capitol, are located on the first floor. When the Capitol was constructed nearly a century ago, seismic dangers were not a concern for designers. The Capitol stood vulnerable to potential earthquake damages until April 4, 2007, when the seismic base isolation project that now serves as the Capitol's earthquake defense system was completed. The system consists of 265 isolators, each weighing 5,000 pounds. The project took approximately two years to complete.

13 Hall of Governors 1 FLOOR

Tradition dictates at the close of his or her administration the governor commissions an official portrait. In the restored first floor Hall of Governors, an exhibition honors past governors and their service to the state through their official portraits by Utah's finest artists.



14 The Capitol Lions 1 FLOOR

The four original Capitol lions - two each at the east and west entrances - were created in cement in 1915. During the years spent guarding the Capitol, weather severely deteriorated the lions. The new lions, sculpted in Italian marble, are named Patience, Fortitude, Honor and Integrity.

1917 The United States enters World War I.

1945 World War II ends.

1961 Dedication of the State Office building north of the Capitol.

1979 Construction of Abravanel Hall is completed.

2002 Salt Lake City hosts the Winter Olympics.

2008 The Utah State Capitol is rededicated January 4th.

